

JPW

PATENT

ED-US020582

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Naoki TOMIYAMA

Serial No. 10/659,442

Filed: September 11, 2003

For: PISTON COUPLING MECHANISM,
LOCKUP DEVICE FOR A FLUID-TYPE
TORQUE TRANSMISSION DEVICE,
ELASTIC COUPLING MECHANISM,
AND SPRING INSTALLATION
METHOD FOR AN ELASTIC COUPLING
MECHANISM

Patent Art Unit: 3681

Examiner: Rodney H. Bonck

THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a **Response to Election/Restriction Requirement** in the above-identified application:

☒ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

					<u>SMALL ENTITY</u>		<u>OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY</u>	
CLAIMS		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR		PRESENT EXTRA				
REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT					RATE	ADDIT. FEE	RATE	ADDIT. FEE
TOTAL	18	- 30	=	0	x09 =	\$	x18 =	\$0
INDEP	3	- 6	=	0	x44 =	\$	x88 =	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> 1ST PRESENTATION OF MULT. DEP. CLAIM					+150 =	\$	+300 =	\$
					TOTAL	\$	TOTAL	\$0

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1836. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

☒ Any additional excess claim fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.

☒ Any additional patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17.

Dated: 11/29/04

Todd M. Guise
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In re Application of	:	
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Naoki TOMIYAMA	:	Patent Art Unit: 3681
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FOR: PISTON COUPLING MECHANISM,	:	
LOCKUP DEVICE FOR A FLUID-TYPE	:	
TORQUE TRANSMISSION DEVICE,	:	
ELASTIC COUPLING MECHANISM,	:	
AND SPRING INSTALLATION	:	
METHOD FOR AN ELASTIC COUPLING	:	
MECHANISM	:	

RESPONSE TO ELECTION / RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

The election/restriction requirement dated November 1, 2004 holds that this application contains claims directed to four patentably distinct inventions. More specifically, Applicant is required to elect one of the following patentably distinct groups for prosecution on the merits under 35 U.S.C. §121:

Group I - Claims 1-12 and 15-20;

Group II - Claim 13;

Group III- Claim 14; and

Group IV - Claims 21-30.

Additionally, the Office Action indicates that there is no generic claim.

In response, Applicant hereby elects Group I of claims 1-12 and 15-20 *without* traverse. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests examination of claims 1-12 and 15-20 because

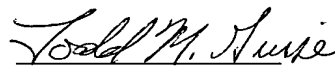
Appl. No. 10/659,442
Amendment dated November 29, 2004
Reply to Office Action of November 1, 2004

they read on the elected group. Claims 13, 14, and 21-30 are believed to be directed to a non-elected embodiment. Thus, these claims can be withdrawn from consideration in this case.

* * *

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Dated: 11/29/04

G:\11-Nov04-TSH\ED-US020582 Restriction Response